

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Johnson Controls Battery Group, Incorporated

**700 North Broad Street
Middletown, DE
Congressional District 1
EPA ID #: DED002353092
Last Updated 6/29/05**

Current Progress at the Site

Extensive progress has been made with the environmental investigation and remediation at the Johnson Controls Battery Group, Incorporated site. The facility is under a RCRA Section 3013 Corrective Action Order to determine the extent of contaminants at the facility and has completed interim measures to mitigate immediate threats to human health and the environment. A rupture in the facility's air pollution control bag house enabled lead contaminants to disperse at and near the facility. The facility has completed excavation of nearby and onsite contaminated soils, and cleaned its rooftops, down spout and gutters under an EPA and Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) approved workplan.

The facility has completed its environmental investigation and EPA and DNREC have approved its final report and December 2000 ecological assessment work plan, which incorporates a Soil Management Plan approved by both EPA and the DNREC. On May 9, 2001, EPA determined that both Environmental Indicators, Human Exposures to Contamination and Releases to Groundwater, have been met. EPA and the state have approved the ecological assessment report. EPA will complete its preliminary determination that no further action is required at the facility at this time and present this preliminary decision to the public in July 2005. Following its response to public comments EPA will present its final determination on corrective action at the facility.

Site Description

Located in Middletown, DE., since 1961, the facility manufactures commercial and industrial lead/acid batteries. Urban sprawl has changed its industrial rural location to include residential development at its borders.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3 with assistance from the State.

Contaminants

The investigation has determined that the lead concentrations in the soil initially exceeded EPA levels and the groundwater is below EPA levels of concern. In 1995, the facility excavated soil following extensive sampling, and completed additional soil excavation in December 1998, as well as, cleaning of its roof and gutters.

Community Interaction

All remedial actions have been advertised to provide public notice of the project. No community responses have been noted.

Institutional Controls

On May 8, 2001, EPA approved the Soil Management Plan, developed as Institutional Controls to ensure long-term control of the site and protection of site remedies. There are onsite locations that contain lead contaminants in subsurface areas, above EPA acceptable standards. These areas are covered by asphalt and/or concrete such that an exposure route does not exist. In the event of any excavation and/or removal of onsite soil in the areas in which the residual lead contamination exceeds the EPA residential lead standard, the Soil Management Plan provides for notification of appropriate regulatory agencies and analyses of soil in location of proposed onsite digging.

Government Contacts

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For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

Facility Contact(s)

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